

FEB 15 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:) Confirmation No. 6559
)
Craig Richard Gerbi et al.) Group Art Unit: 3731
)
Applic. Serial No.: 10/624,848)
)
Filed: 07/21/2003) Examiner: Pous, Natalie R.
)
For: TOOL GUIDE AND METHOD FOR)
INTRODUCING AN END EFFECTOR)
TO A SURGICAL SITE IN)
MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY)
_____) Sunnyvale, California
Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. 571-273-8300) on the date indicated below.



Signature

2/16/06

Date

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This communication responds to the Non-Final Office Action of Sept. 7, 2005 for which a Petition for Extension of Time extending the period for response to March 7, 2006 is attached hereto along with payment of the Fee for the Extension of Time.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 6 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including Replacement Sheets for amended drawing figures is attached following page 11 of this paper.

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Atty. Docket No.: 017516-006810US